PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

TRANSLATION INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

| Applicant's or agent's file reference P842-PCT | FOR FURTHER ACTION | See Form PCT/IPEA/416 | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| International application No. | International filing date (day/month/year) | Priority date (day/month/year) | | | | | |
| PCT/JP2004/014790 | 30.09.2004 | 30.09.2003 | | | | | |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC | | | | | | | |
| C 2 2 C 3 8 / 0 0 , C 1 D 9 / 4 6 | : 2 2 C 3 8 / 1 4 , C 2 | 2 2 C 3 8 / 5 8 , C 2 | | | | | |
| Applicant | | | | | | | |
| NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION | | | | | | | |
| This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. | | | | | | | |
| 2. This REPORT consists of a total of | 3 sheets, including | this cover sheet. | | | | | |
| 3. This report is also accompanied by Al | NEXES, comprising: | | | | | | |
| a. (sent to the applicant and | to the International Bureau) a total of | sheets, as follows: | | | | | |
| | sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative | | | | | | |
| | de earlier sheets, but which this Authority consi international application as filed, as indicated i | | | | | | |
| | Sureau only) a total of (indicate type and number | of electronic carrier(s)) | | | | | |
| | | , containing a sequence listing and/or tables | | | | | |
| related thereto, in computer Section 802 of the Administr | readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemative Instructions). | | | | | | |
| 4. This report contains indications relating | ng to the following items: | | | | | | |
| Box No. I Basis of the | report | | | | | | |
| Box No. II Priority | | | | | | | |
| Box No. III Non-establis | shment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventi- | ve step and industrial applicability | | | | | |
| Box No. IV Lack of unit | y of invention | | | | | | |
| DOX 1.0. V | tatement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; d explanations supporting such statement | | | | | | |
| Box No. VI Certain docu | ments cited | | | | | | |
| Box No. VII Certain defe | cts in the international application | | | | | | |
| Box No. VIII Certain obse | ervations on the international application | | | | | | |
| Date of submission of the demand | Date of completion of this | s report | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP | Authorized officer | | | | | | |
| Facsimile No. | Telephone No. | | | | | | |

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/014790

| Box | No. I | | Basis of the report | | | |
|------------|---|-------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. | With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. | | | | | |
| | This report is based on translations from the original language into the following | | | | | |
| | which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of: | | | | | |
| | | $\overline{\Box}$ | ternational search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)) | | | |
| | | $\overline{\Box}$ | ublication of the international application (Rule 12.4 | | | |
| | | | aternational preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and | | haats which have hear formished to the | |
| 2. | With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report): | | | | | |
| | | the inte | rnational application as originally filed/furnished | | | |
| | \boxtimes | the des | cription: | | | |
| | | pages | 1-3, 6-11, 14-16, 18-44 | | as originally filed/furnished | |
| | | pages* | 4,5,12,13,17 | received by this Authority on | 28.04.2005 | |
| | | pages* | | received by this Authority on | | |
| i | \boxtimes | the clai | | | | |
| | | nos. | 2,4-14 | | as originally filed/furnished | |
| | | nos.* | | | r with any statement) under Article 19 | |
| | | nos.* | 1,3 | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | nos.* | | _ 10001100 07 1125 1101101117 011 | | |
| | Ш | the dra | wings: | | | |
| | | sheets | | | as originally filed/furnished | |
| | | sheets* | | • | | |
| | _ | sheets* | | received by this Authority on | | |
| | | a seque | ence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplement | nental Box Relating to Sequence L | isting. | |
| 3. | | The an | nendments have resulted in the cancellation of: | | | |
| | | □ t | he description, pages | | | |
| | the claims, nos. | | | | | |
| | the drawings, sheets/figs | | | | | |
| | | $\overline{}$ | he sequence listing (specify): | | | |
| | | | any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): | | | |
| 4. | | | • • • • • • • • • | dments annexed to this report and | I listed below had not been made, since | |
| " . | This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, sin they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)). | | | ntal Box (Rule 70.2(c)). | | |
| | the description, pages | | | | | |
| | the claims, nos. | | | | | |
| | the drawings, sheets/figs | | | | | |
| | | | he sequence listing (specify): | | | |
| | any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): | | | | | |
| | If it | | lies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "sup | perseded." | | |

International application No.

| | INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY | PCT/JP2004/014790 | | | | |
|-----|--|-------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Box | Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement | | | | | |
| 1. | Statement | | | | | |
| | Novelty (N) Claims 1-14 | YES | | | | |
| | Claims | NO | | | | |
| | Inventive step (IS) Claims 1-14 | YES | | | | |
| | Claims | NO | | | | |
| | Industrial applicability (IA) Claims 1-14 | YES | | | | |
| | Claims | NO NO | | | | |
| 2. | Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7) | | | | | |
| | Document 1: JP 2002-129279 A (Kawasaki S | teel | | | | |
| | Corporation), 9 May 2002, cl | laims, paragraph | | | | |
| | 0046 (Family: none) | | | | | |
| | Document 2: JP 2001-226741 A (Kawasaki S | teel | | | | |
| | Corporation), 21 August 2001 | l, claims | | | | |
| | (Family: none) | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | Claims 1 to 14 | | | | | |
| | The inventions set forth in claims 1 to 14 are not | | | | | |
| | disclosed in documents 1 or 2 cited in t | he international | | | | |
| | search report, and would not be obvious to a person | | | | | |
| | skilled in the art. | | | | | |
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